NSC1-54400 -29- <u>PATENT</u>

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for matching a configuration of a first station of a local area network to a configuration of a second station of the local area network, comprising:

detecting means for detecting the configuration of the second station;

comparing means for comparing the detected configuration of the second station to the configuration of the first station;

configuration changing means for changing the configuration of the first station when the comparison yields a first result; and

waiting means for waiting for the configuration of the second station to change when the comparison yields a second result.

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